



August 17, 2006

"Do not enter"
aa

IFW

Hal Richardson
1220 E Sagebrush St.
Gilbert, AZ 85296
480 892 0154 hm
480 200 1220 cell

United States Patent and Trademark Office
Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Application No. 10/699,594
Reply to final rejection mailed 6/14/06

Mr. Chin Shue,

I am writing in response to your final rejection of my patent application. I do not want to use an attorney any further, so when you reply, reply to me at the above address. Your final rejection is not proper. The last 3 years have been a waste of my time and money and it will not continue. If you will not grant me a patent, then I will not spend thousands of dollars more on lawyers to try and overcome your prejudice against my idea.

The Constitution in Art. 1, section 8 states concerning inventions, "promote the progress of science and useful arts, by securing for limited times to inventors the exclusive right to their discoveries". I deserve this right.

My device saves lives. Regardless of your trained *legal only* outlook on this invention, it is not like the other patents you cited. I never knew of any of them or have seen them in the field in my 33 years with the Fire Service. My Chief on Tempe Fire Department says he has never seen any device as good as this one and he has 35 years in the Fire Service.

You throw terms like "knowledge of the art" around, but you have no idea of the difference between my device and the others you form your rejection on. I am one with knowledge of the art and I had no idea of the existence of the other patents you state that I "modified" to make mine. That is not true. And if you laid them all in front of me, none of them have anything to do with a Self Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA). That is the whole concept behind my idea.

Waist belts, leg loops, line, descender, etc., are used in just about any type of harness in the climbing, rescue, caving, and rope world. It is the combination of items that is making my device "new". All of the patents you site have these things and the wording of the claims uses these terms.